

of good nutrition and exercise is essential to the health of our children.

That is why I would like to take this time to recognize and wish my children's junior high teacher Joe Champlay a Happy Birthday. Joe has been a long time PE teacher in my hometown at Taylorville Jr. High School. Happy Birthday Mr. Joe!

CELEBRATING THE RED CAPS OF THE SAINT PAUL UNION DEPOT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Red Caps who served generations of the traveling public at the Union Depot in Saint Paul, Minnesota. For many years, the Red Caps were the first faces that many travelers saw upon arriving in Minnesota's capital city. These welcoming and dedicated men performed an important role in Minnesota's transportation history and served a vital community role as well—as the backbone of Rondo neighborhood, historically home to many of Saint Paul's African-American families.

The hard work of the individuals who served as Red Caps can be traced to the end of the Civil War, when many former slaves found work on the railroad. The growth of our nation's railroads was made possible by the tireless work of these individuals. By the 1860s Pullman porters could be seen in the station greeting passengers, carrying luggage, serving food and beverages, tending to the sleeper bunks, cleaning, and even shining shoes. The duties of these porters eventually extended to the Red Caps by the time the original Saint Paul Union Depot opened in 1881. The Red Caps filled critical jobs not only on the trains, but in the stations as well, receiving small salaries and earned tips. Many of these men settled and raised families in Saint Paul's old Rondo neighborhood. The Red Caps created a solid African-American middle class in Saint Paul that has lasted well over 85 years until traveling preferences and diminished employment led to many of the Red Caps becoming sky caps at the airport and eventually to the closure of the Saint Paul Union Depot in 1971.

This weekend marks the 30th Anniversary of Rondo Days, a vibrant community festival. As part of this anniversary, the Red Caps will be honored and celebrated for their generations of contributions to the community.

Today Red Caps can still be seen working in several stations throughout the country, continuing their strong legacy. The re-opening of the Union Depot just this past year marks another wave of change in transportation for the region, the City of Saint Paul, and along with it a dedication to the Red Caps. As a child, I remember the Red Caps fondly, and was delighted to be present during the recent commemoration of the Red Cap Room at the Saint Paul Union Depot. It is an appropriate gift for those who gave so much to our community.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the Red Caps, I am pleased to submit this statement to recognize their hard work and contributions to the Rondo neighborhood and the city of Saint Paul.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MOVIE THEATER SHOOTING IN
AURORA, COLORADO

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow will mark the one-year anniversary of the movie theater shootings in Aurora, Colorado. The 12 killed and 82 injured never thought the midnight screening of a movie would end in violence.

We stand here today as members of the Colorado delegation to remember and honor the victims of this tragedy.

And we stand here today to honor the strength and resilient spirit Coloradans have shown in the wake of an event that sent shockwaves around the world.

The victims included children, members of the military, and people from across Colorado and the country. As accounts of the shooting began to come out, we heard more and more stories of heroics from those inside the theater.

People jumped up to shield their loved ones from harm, putting their lives on the line to save the lives of others. Complete strangers helped bring the wounded outside to safety. And first responders reacted quickly and worked urgently to save lives.

These are the people we honor today, who, in the face of evil, showed true courage.

Mr. Speaker, we will never forget the events of July 20th, 2012. And we will never forget the lives and legacies of those who lost their lives that day.

HONORING RESIDENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY 1ST CONGRES- SIONAL DISTRICT KILLED IN AC- TION OVERSEAS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and sacrifice of sixteen of my constituents who have been killed in action overseas and were recently honored at the Harleigh Cemetery this past Memorial Day: Corporal Terry P. Allen, Lance Corporal Curtis Christensen, Captain Gregory Dalessio, Specialist Anthony J. Dixon, Sergeant Michael Egan, Private First Class Adam Froehlick, Lance Corporal Jon T. Hicks, Jr., Sergeant Jeremy Kane, Lieutenant Jason Mann, Captain Maria Ortiz, Captain Charles D. Robinson, Corporal Marc T. Ryan, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Spahr, Petty Officer First Class David M. Tapper, Staff Sergeant Joseph Weiglein, and Private Robert White. They join the ranks of countless Americans before them who fought on behalf of this country. These sixteen service members gave their lives in service not only to New Jersey, but the nation as a whole. They will not be forgotten.

Since before this country was even founded, young Americans have stepped forward to defend its ideals. They have fought with distinction in every corner of the globe. From the beaches of Normandy to the deserts of the

Middle East, they have stood shoulder to shoulder in defense of freedom. Unfortunately, not all have returned.

These young service members laid down their lives in the preservation of liberty. They chose to devote themselves to the defense of this country and its people. The patriotism and resolve displayed by these sixteen men and women stand as a model for the rest of us. Their service should be mirrored; their sacrifice honored.

Mr. Speaker, the decision of these young men and women to serve their country will not go unrecognized, nor will their sacrifice fade from memory. I want to personally extend my condolences to their loved ones, who have also sacrificed greatly. We as a nation owe these sixteen brave men and women, and their families, a deep debt of gratitude.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEST WESTERN ROUTE 66 RAIL HAVEN MOTEL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven Motel, located in Springfield, Missouri.

Founded in 1938, the Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven Motel has a long and storied history of serving Southwest Missouri and travelers from all over the United States. Brothers Elwyn and Lawrence Lippman built the original motel on their grandfather's apple orchard located on the eastern city limits of Springfield and Route 66. From 1938 and on, the Lippman brothers continued to expand their motel to accompany more customers. In 1948, the Best Western motel chain was founded and Lawrence began to serve on their board of directors in 1951, making Rail Haven part of the Best Western family. The motel is the oldest continually operating national branded Best Western hotel on Route 66 and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Throughout the next half century, Rail Haven and the City of Springfield saw vast growth and change. In 1994, local Certified Public Accountant Gordon A. Elliott acquired the property and through his vision and leadership, the Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven Motel extensively remodeled and upgraded its facilities. Today vintage gas pumps and classic cars can be found on the Rail Haven grounds, which shed light on the motel's humble beginnings.

Through Gordon's hard work, innovation, and leadership, Rail Haven has seen tremendous success in recent decades. In fact, Gordon was recognized as the 2013 Springfieldian by the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven Motel has a very distinct honor to be one of the original Route 66 motels. A very few number of these motels were part of the national chain, and it is very rare to find one that retains that affiliation to this day. I am honored to recognize the Best Western Route 66 Rail Haven Motel for its steadfast hard work and dedication over the past 75 years and look forward to watching its success for years to come.